THE
Bloody Sons Warning-piece.

OR,

NEWS

From READING *in* BERKSHIRE.

Being a True Relation of a Horrible Murther Committed by VV. H. *an Unnatural Son, on his own Father.*

With the Wonderful manner how the fact came to be first discovered after the Murther was committed Five Years: the Murtherer being Visited with the Small Pox, and lying near the point of death, (though since recovered) confessed the fact with all its Circumstances to a Justice.

Attested by an ear-Witness, an Inhabitant there, depositions being made by several prisoners to the Justice there of the truth, for which fact the Prisoner expects to suffer at the next Assizes holden for the County aforesaid.

With Allowance, Roger L'Estrange.

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THE

Bloody SON'S

VVarning-Piece.

THough we have heard of and lately ſeen a horrid variety of bloody murthers appearing in divers ſhapes and diſguiſes, yet there hath not been any of them more barbarous, unnatural, and deteſtable than this, by which doubtleſs the actor will receive divine vengeance at the next aſſizes :

This murther was perpretated and acted five years ſince, but not diſcovered till now by the wonderful works and providence of God, the manner thus.

Our *W. H.* now a priſoner in *Reading*-Goal, who was five years ſince condemned at the aſſizes then holden at *Reading*, for that he in a moſt horrid manner murthered his father *H.* by cording him down to a piece of wood, by the aſſiſtance of another: and though the Iury brought him in guilty, yet the evidence appearing but circumſtantial, the execution was deferr'd for this five years laſt paſt; but behold the Wonderful works of God in the diſcovery of it, that this heinous ſin of murther and parricide might not go unpuniſhed even in this life, and though the Authour of this horrid murther hath often endeavoured to make eſcape, yet by providence was prevented, though he was ſuffered to beg for the Priſoners, being faſtned to the houſe by a chain about his Leg, and once he attempted to burn the houſe, but was prevented by the care of his Keepers, &c. It hath pleaſed God after that he had been five years a priſoner to afflict him with ſickneſs and diſeaſes, and being very ill of the ſmall-pox, and in danger of death, ſo that he

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was lookt upon as past recovery by all that saw him, both his fellow-prisoners and others; he himself dispairing of life, in the midst of his pangs and convulsions (as he thought of Death) he did make this following confession to his fellow-prisoners; That when he was first accused of this fact, which is five years since, he with the assistance of another (who is since fled) did cut his Fathers head off, the other party hearing of this confession is since fled; but the Man remains still in custody, and hath confessed the fact to a Iustice, and is otherwaies prov'd by depositions of his fellow-prisoners; he further said that the body of his Father and the head was buried five miles asunder; he carrying his fathers body in a white cloath, as he was going into the fields met one of his neighbours, and as he said, he immediately proffered him five pounds to hold his peace, but the Man was too honest to be hired with the price of blood, though 'tis likely for the present promis'd fair: but a while after this person hearing that Goodman *H.* was missing, and none knew which way he was gone, most thinking that he had some foul play shew'd him, and remembring withal who had offered him five pound for concealment, which was a great sum considering his ability, being no other then a labouring man that workt for his living, and by enquiry finding that the old man was missing about that time, he imagined and concluded it was his murthered father

ther the perſon miſs'd which he had on his back, by which means the murther was found out; though it could not be evidently proved, he not ſeeing any thing but the white cloath as it lay on the priſoners back, in which he ſuppoſed was wrapt up the body of his Murthered Father, the blood was ſeen to run through the cloath, this being all the evidence, execution was deferred for this five years, and he hath remained ever ſince a convict upon orders, this diſcovery he made in the height of his diſtemper the ſmall-Pox, ſince which time it hath pleaſed God to reſtore him to his former health, to bring him to condine puniſhment for his wicked fact: By this time it is thought the body and head may be found, ſearch being to be made by the juſtice and inhabitants of *Reading*, according as he directed them, to find them, all this being atteſted by an Inhabitant of the ſaid Town, who is a witneſs to theſe depoſitions. Oh let this example warn all others from following lewd courſes, abſenting themſelves from Divine worſhip, and not providing for their families.

And

And eſpecially from hearkening to the Devils ſuggeſtions, or their own revenge, ſo as in paſsion or deſign to bereave any of their lives, which beſides the danger of their ſouls eternal ruine, moſt deſervedly, and aſſuredly will bring them to fall, unpittied, by an untimely and ignominious Death.

FINIS.

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